

# MISSOURI DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## PURPOSE

- ✓ To develop the transportation infrastructure of the region for the purposes of facilitating economic development in the region;
- ✓ To assist the region in obtaining the job training, employment-related education, and business development (with an emphasis on entrepreneurship) that are needed to build and maintain strong local economies;
- ✓ To provide assistance to severely distressed and underdeveloped areas that lack financial resources for improving basic public services;
- ✓ To provide assistance to severely distressed and underdeveloped areas that lack financial resources for equipping industrial parks and related facilities;
- ✓ To otherwise achieve the purposes of the subtitle.

## AUTHORIZATION

**Enabling Legislation:** Congressional Record H12285 Section 503, The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.) Subtitle F. The Delta Regional Authority is a newly created federal-state partnership serving a 236-county area in an 8-state region.

## ELIGIBLE AREAS

Missouri's eligible applicants include cities, counties, regional planning commissions and not for profits operating in the Delta Region defined as EDA distressed counties. The EDA Distressed counties in the Authority area are: *Bollinger, Butler, Carter, Crawford, Dent, Douglas, Dunklin, Howell, Iron, Madison, Mississippi, New Madrid, Oregon, Ozark, Pemiscott, Perry, Phelps, Reynolds, Ripley, Ste. Genevieve, St. Francois, Scott, Shannon, Stoddard, Texas, Washington, Wayne, Wright.*

Note: Cape Girardeau County is not an EDA distressed county.

Applications from Cape Girardeau County may be received if the application meets one of these criteria: 1) is multi-county in nature; 2) brings significant benefits to areas of the region outside the non-distressed county; or 3) serves an isolated area of distress having high rates of poverty or unemployment.

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Missouri's eligible applicants include cities, counties, and regional planning commissions and not for profits operating in the Delta Region defined as EDA distressed counties. See above.

## ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

- ✓ Basic infrastructure (non-water or wastewater) in distressed counties and isolated areas of distress
- ✓ Basic infrastructure water or wastewater related to industrial parks or business related activities in distressed counties and isolated areas of distress
- ✓ Transportation infrastructure for the purpose of facilitating economic development
- ✓ Business development with an emphasis on entrepreneurship
- ✓ Job training or employment-related education with emphasis on use of existing public educational institutions

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The federal Delta Regional Authority announces the application procedure and timeline annually. The applications are submitted to the local regional planning commission. They are determined eligible or ineligible by the federal DRA. In Missouri, the Missouri Commission reviews eligible applications for the Delta Regional Authority. The Commission provides their recommendations to the Governor who

makes the final recommendation to the federal DRA.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Missouri Commission for the Delta Regional Authority reviews the eligible applications for Missouri and makes a recommendation to the Governor. HCR 25 created the Missouri Commission for the Delta Regional Authority. A list of current members may be found on the Governors website for Boards and Commissions. The commission evaluates projects using the following criteria:

- ✓ *Impact* (Defined in terms of people affected and the degree to which a defined problem is eliminated)
- ✓ *Sustainability* (Refers to long term operation and maintenance; life span; the ability to maintain itself)
- ✓ *Organizational Capacity* (Experience, membership, financial capacity)
- ✓ *Consistency with local planning*
- ✓ *Documented need* (3<sup>rd</sup> party proof of the need)
- ✓ *Local responsibility* (Defined as interest, investment, knowledge, and support)
- ✓ *Regional Solutions*
- ✓ *Definitive goals* (What specifically do you want to accomplish?)
- ✓ *Measurable results* (How will you know when you are successful? How will you know when you are on the right track?)
- ✓ *Capacity for regulatory and statutory compliance*

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Go to the federal Delta Regional Authority website at [www.dra.gov](http://www.dra.gov) for more information on the grant program application cycle.

## CONTACT



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